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COMMUNICATION OF 2 JUNE 1998 RECEIVED FROM THE PERMANENT MISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES TO THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY

Attached is a communication received from the Permanent Mission of the Philippines forwarding a statement by the President of the Philippines, for the information of Member States.

For reasons of economy, this document has been printed in a limited number.

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Attachment

PASUGUAN NG PILIPINAS
PHILIPPINE EMBASSY/MISSION
BOTSCHAFT DER PHILIPPINEN
VIENNA, 02 June 1998

Ltr-785-98

Excellency:

I have the honour to enclose a copy of the statement issued by H.E. Fidel V. Ramos, President of the Philippines, on the recent nuclear tests conducted by Pakistan.

I would highly appreciate it if the IAEA Secretariat could circulate the statement to all member-states of the Agency.

With renewed assurances of my highest esteem.

JOSE A. ZAIDE
Ambassador

H.E. Dr. Mohamed ElBaradei
Director-General
International Atomic Energy Agency
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STATEMENT OF H.E. PRESIDENT FIDEL V. RAMOS
ON PAKISTAN'S NUCLEAR TESTING
MANILA, 29 MAY 1998

THE PHILIPPINES EXPRESSES ITS DEEP CONCERN AND UTMOST DISMAY OVER THE SERIES OF NUCLEAR TESTS CONDUCTED YESTERDAY BY PAKISTAN IN RESPONSE TO THE NUCLEAR EXPLOSIONS CARRIED OUT BY INDIA. PAKISTAN CONDUCTED THE TESTS IN DEFIANCE OF GLOBAL EFFORTS AIMED AT BANNING NUCLEAR TESTS AND IN UTTER DISREGARD OF APPEALS FOR RESTRAINT BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY.

THESE NUCLEAR TESTS ARE SERIOUS BLOWS TO REGIONAL SECURITY AND TO THE GLOBAL NON-PROLIFERATION REGIME AND INTERNATIONAL NUCLEAR DISARMAMENT EFFORTS. THE LATEST TESTS NOT ONLY ESCALATE THE NUCLEAR RACE IN SOUTH ASIA BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY, DIVERT SCARCE RESOURCES TO NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND MISSILE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS FROM THE IMPERATIVES OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENTS.

THE PHILIPPINES URGES PAKISTAN AND INDIA TO REFRAIN FROM ANY ACTION THAT COULD FURTHER EXACERBATE THE TENSE SITUATION IN THE ASIAN SUB-CONTINENT AND TO ADHERE TO THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR TEST BAN TREATY AND THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY.

WE REITERATE OUR CALL ON STATES CONCERNED TO SHOW UTMOST RESTRAINT TO STEM THE NUCLEAR ARMS RACE AND TO SAFEGUARD PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE REGION. WE LIKEWISE URGE THE BIG POWERS TO USE THEIR INFLUENCE TO DISCOURAGE FUTURE NUCLEAR TESTINGS AND THE NEED FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS.